

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14

RSC-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15

AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 NSF-04

SCI-06 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-02 OIC-04 FEA-02 DRC-01 /293 W

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R 051835Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4514

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CARACAS 6158

DEPARTMENT PASS ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS FOR INFO

FROM US DEL LOS

E.99. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS CONFERENCE - WEEKLY ANALYTICAL SUMMARY, JUNE 28
TO JULY 4

1. PRESIDENT NIXON'S MESSAGE TO CONFERENCE WAS READ BY
PRESIDENT AT START GENERAL DEBATE.

2. GENERAL DEBATE DOMINATED WORK DURING THIS PERIOD,
ALTHOUGH MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES ARE BEGINNING. WITH EX-
CEPTION OF CHINESE AND ALBANIAN ATTACKS ON "SUPERPOWERS,"
MAINLY USSR, ATMOSPHERE WAS SOBER AND BUSINESSLIKE WITH
NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS AT CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS. NOTABLE
INTERVENTIONS OF GENERAL SIGNIFICANCE WERE AS FOLLOWS:
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A. USSR SAID IT COULD ACCEPT 200-MILE ECONOMIC

ZONE PROVIDED THERE IS OBLIGATION TO PERMIT FOREIGN FISHING FOR STOCKS NOT FULLY UTILIZED BY COASTAL STATE, WITH 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA, FREE TRANSIT OF STRAITS, AND FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AS QUID PRO QUO. THIS WAS A MAJOR MOVE THAT SHOULD HAVE VERY POSITIVE EFFECT ON PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS. IT LEAVES JAPAN AND A FEW WESTERN EUROPEANS AS THE SOLE OPPONENTS OF BROAD FISHERIES JURISDICTION.

B. INDIA ENDORSED COASTAL STATE JURISDICTION OVER THE SEABED OF THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN BEYOND 200 MILES, WITH REVENUE SHARING FROM THIS AREA. PROBABLY A REACTION TO THE ENERGY CRISIS, THE INDIAN MOVE INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD THAT MARGIN JURISDICTION BEYOND 200 MILES WILL BE ACCEPTED. INDIA ALSO MADE VAGUE BUT FAVORABLE STATEMENT ON STRAITS AND ACCEPTED IMCO AS STANDARD SETTING AGENCY FOR VESSEL-SOURCE POLLUTION.

C. PAUL ENGO OF THE CAMEROON (CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE I) MADE A POINTED APPEAL TO THE MAJOR POWERS ON THE DEEP SEABEDS REGIME. OTHER LDC STATEMENTS (INCLUDING INDIA) CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE DIRECT EXPLOITATION BY THE AUTHORITY AND PRICE AND PRODUCTION CONTROLS. A PATTERN OF INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE MAJOR POWERS ON THE DEEP SEABEDS ISSUE MAY BE EMERGING.

D. DESPITE ITS RHETORIC, THE SUBSTANCE OF CHINESE POSITIONS, WHILE STILL EXTREME, SHOWS SOME SIGNS OF MODERATION.

E. BRAZIL INDICATED SOME SOFTENING IN ITS HARD-LINE 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA POSITION, REFERRING TO FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION WITHIN 200 MILES.

F. COSTA RICA GAVE CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECH BACKING US ON STRAITS, ON FULL UTILIZATION OF FISHERIES, AND SPECIAL TREATMENT FOR HIGHLY MIGRATORY STOCKS.

G. U.K. INDICATED READY TO DISCUSS POSITIVELY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY CONCEPT OF AN ECONOMIC ZONE OF 200 MILES OF COASTAL STATE RIGHTS IN ZONE BALANCED BY OBLIGATION AND SATISFACTORY TREATY RULES PROTECTING FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION ACHIEVED.

3. THE MOVE BY CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE 2, AMBASSADOR AGUILAR OF VENEZUELA, TO AVOID ESTABLISHING FORMAL WORKING GROUPS AND AD HOC GROUPS HIMSELF IS A POSITIVE SIGN, AND REFLECTS GENERAL DESIRE TO GET DOWN TO WORK. HE SEEMS TO BE SUCCEEDING IN ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT BILATERAL FLARE-UPS (E.G. GREECE-TURKEY).

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4. PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS REVEAL A SHIFT IN OUR DIRECTION ON STRAITS, PARTICULARLY AMONG ARAB STATES. IN ADDITION TO KUWAIT AND IRAQ, APPARENTLY ALGERIA IS BACKING FREE TRANSIT OF STRAITS, SUBJECT TO RESOLUTION OF QTE EGYPT'S PROBLEM UNQTE (TIRAN). ON POLLUTION, CONVERSATIONS ALSO REVEAL SOME SHIFT IN FAVOR OF EXCLUSIVELY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR VESSEL CONSTRUCTION, NOTABLY INCLUDING AUSTRALIA. THE U.K. WILL

NOW INTRODUCE NEW TERRITORIAL SEA AND STRAITS ARTICLES, AND
EXPECTS EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FROM OTHERS.

5. THE GROUP OF LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED
STATES IS MORE ACTIVE, AND THERE IS RESENTMENT AMONG SOME
COASTAL STATES. THIS MAY INSPIRE A NEW MOVE FOR
AFRICAN UNITY WHICH, IF SUCCESSFUL, COULD HELP RESOLVE
PROBLEM BUT, IF DRAWN OUT, COULD RENDER NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE AFRICANS MORE DIFFICULT.

6. THE LATINS ARE GENERALLY MORE COOPERATIVE, EXCEPT ON
DEEP SEABEDS. THIS IS PROBABLY DUE TO WIDESPREAD DESIRE
TO NEGOTIATE AS WELL AS DEFERENCE TO VENEZUELA'S DESIRE
FOR SUCCESS.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CARACAS 6158

7. U.S. DEL HAS BEEN ACTIVELY WORKING FOR DISCUSSION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR DEEP SEABED MINING. STRONG OPPOSITION TO ANY DISCUSSION OF REGULATIONS IN COMMITTEE 1 (C-1) OR WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY LATINS, ALTHOUGH SOME AFRICANS, PRIMARILY TANZANIA, HAVE BEEN A LITTLE MORE SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION. PROBABLY REASON FOR LATIN OPPOSITION IS THAT REGULATIONS IN TREATY WOULD REDUCE NEED FOR DISCRETIONARY APPROACH ENVISIONED IN ENTERPRISE PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH STATED JUSTIFICATION IS THAT SUBJECT IS TOO TECHNICAL AND DETAILED FOR DISCUSSION IN WORKING GROUP. SOME LDC'S HAVE SUGGESTED CREATION OF SECOND WORKING GROUP ON ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS, PROBABLY INSPIRED BY RECENT PUBLICATION OF SECRETARIAT REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT. U.S. DEL IS OPPOSED TO CREATION OF SUCH A GROUP, SINCE WE BELIEVE IT COULD POTENTIALLY LEAD TO DRAFTING OF PROVISIONS FOR PRICE AND PRODUCTION CONTROLS. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAUL ENGO, CHAIRMAN OF C-1, HAS PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE BEGIN TWO WEEKS OF GENERAL DEBATE JULY 10 AND THAT NO FORMAL SUB-COMMITTEE OR WORKING GROUP BE ESTABLISHED. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER ENGO'S PLAN WILL BE ACCEPTED BY REGIONAL GROUPS. ENGO AND TANZANIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION HAVE INDICATED THEIR CONCERN THAT U.S. DEEP SEABEDS POSITION WHICH THEY CHARACTERISE AS EXTREME WILL DELAY COMMITTEE WORK. BOTH INDICATED THAT IN THEIR VIEW LDC'S WILL NOT ACCOMMODATE U.S. NAVIGATIONAL INTERESTS IN STRAITS AND ECONOMIC ZONE UNLESS U.S. PREPARED TO SEEK REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF LDC'S POSITION ON DEEP SEABED. FRG INFORMED US THAT GENERALLY THEY WILL SUPPORT U.S. POSITION AND INTEND TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE, BUT NOTED THAT FRG STANDS VIRTUALLY ALONE IN EC IN ITS OPPOSITION TO PRICE AND PRODUCTION CONTROLS IN DEEP SEABED AREA, ALTHOUGH THEY RECEIVE LIMITED SUPPORT FROM U.K. CRITICAL ELEMENT OF AUSTRALIAN POSITION APPEARS TO BE SUPPORT FOR PRICE AND PRODUCTION CONTROLS DUE TO THEIR DOMESTIC PRODUCTION AND EXPORT POSITION ON THE FOUR METALS OF PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN NODULES. U.K. IN GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT INDICATED ITS PREVIOUS PROPOSAL FOR ALICENSING SYSTEM COMBINED WITH A QUOTA SYSTEM RESTRICTING AREAS AVAILABLE FOR LEASE HAS NOT BEEN SUPPORTED BY OTHERS AND WILL LOOK AT OTHER PROPOSALS, ENSURING THAT ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN EXPLORATION. REGIME SHOULD ENSURE ALL STATES SPEEDY ACCESS AND PROVIDE FOR ORDERLY AND ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT. STEVENSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETING PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CARACA06158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740180-0162
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740774/aaaaclay.tel
Line Count: 221
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS CONFERENCE - WEEKLY ANALYTICAL SUMMARY, JUNE 28 TO JULY 4
TAGS: PLOS, PBOR, PFOR, CARACAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005